

Dr. Michael B. Shelby, Director
Center for Evaluation of Risks to Human Reproduction
National Toxicology Program
NIEHS
P.O. Box 12233, MD EG-32
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

September 27, 2005

Dear NTP Expert Panel:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write today in support of CERHR's expert panel review of the scientific evidence regarding di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP)'s reproductive and/or developmental toxicity.

We support a full and fair review of all data relevant to the committee charge. We have a concern that the committee will be reviewing data that has not been published and has, therefore, not been subjected to the professional scrutiny of the broad scientific community. These data may be flawed or weak and, therefore, should be subjected to rigorous critique by the committee if they are to be used to inform the committee's deliberations. Raw data should be made publicly available and must undergo rigorous review and analysis by the CERHR committee, using the full range of appropriate expertise. The committee should carefully consider study design, animal husbandry, study power, analysis of the raw data, and statistical analysis and interpretation. The CERHR review process should be open and transparent and fully available publicly.

Sincerely,

John Balbus, MD, MPH, Director, Health Program
Environmental Defense (Washington, DC)

Julie Becker, Ph.D., MPH, Research Assistant Professor
Department of Family and Community Medicine, Thomas Jefferson University (Philadelphia)

Michael Belliveau, Executive Director
Environmental Health Strategy Center (Maine)

Paul Bogart, Campaign Coordinator
Healthy Building Network (Washington, DC)

Charlotte Brody, RN, Executive Director
Commonweal (Bollinas)

Kathleen Burns, Ph.D.
Sciencecorps.org (Lexington, Massachusetts)

Rob Cedar, Director
HEAT- Hamtramck Environmental Action Team (Michigan)

Angela Crowley-Koch, Executive Director
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility

Alicia Culver, Executive Director
EnviroSpec (Berkeley)

Kathleen Curtis, Executive Director
Citizens' Environmental Coalition (Albany)

Sofia Dorsano, Environmental Health
Endometriosis Association

Lois Gibbs, Executive Director
Michael Schade, Campaign Coordinator
Center for Health, Environment & Justice (Falls Church)

Steven Gilbert, PhD, DABT
Board Member and Co-Chair, Environment & Human Health Committee
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

Anna Gilmore Hall, RN
Health Care Without Harm

Robert M. Gould, MD, President
San Francisco Bay Area Physicians for Social Responsibility

Richard Grady, MD
Board and Environment & Human Health Committee Member
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

Michael Green, Executive Director
Center for Environmental Health (Oakland, CA)

Charles Griffith, Auto Project Director
Tracey Easthope, MPH, Environmental Health Director
Ecology Center (Ann Arbor)

Jamie Harvie
Institute for a Sustainable Future (Duluth)

Amanda Hawes, Board Member
Cal-COSH (San Francisco)

Sue Heffernan, RN, MN, CNS, Nursing Professional Development
Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center (Seattle)

Teresa Mendez-Quigley, Director, Environmental Stewardship
Women's Health & Environmental Network (WHEN) (Philadelphia)

Jonathan Parfrey, Executive Director
Physicians for Social Responsibility-Los Angeles

Jeanne Rizzo, R.N., Executive Director
Breast Cancer Fund (San Francisco)

Judith Robinson, Special Projects Director
Environmental Health Fund (Boston)

Mark Rossi, PhD, Research Director
Clean Production Action (Boston)

Jennifer Sass, Ph.D.
Natural Resources Defense Council (Washington, DC)

Myrna Soule, President
Learning Disabilities Association, Oregon

Nathalie Walker & Monique Harden, Co-Directors & Attorneys
Advocates for Environmental Human Rights (New Orleans)

David Wallinga, MD, MPA, Director, Food and Health Program
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (Minnesota)

Diane Wilson
Calhoun County Resource Watch (Seadrift, Texas)